

Message Text

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15
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 SAJ-01

CU-02 IO-13 /076 W
----- 113230

R 031000Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 746
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MSOCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CSCE, CZ
SUBJECT: WRITER'S UNION SECRETARY CALLS FOR A "LITERARY HELSINKI"

1. WRITER'S UNION SECRETARY RUDOLF KALCIK HAS CALLED FOR A
"LITERARY HELSINKI" OF WRITERS FROM ALL NATIONS WHICH SIGNED THE
HELSINKI FINAL ACT.

2. HE URGED WRITERS "TO SPEAK UP IN SUPPORT OF PEACE AND DETENTE
IN EUROPE, FOR DISARMAMENT, AND AGAINST THE DANGERS OF WAR."

3. KALCIK SAID PREPARATIONS FOR SUCH A CONFERENCE, ALREADY
SUGGESTED BY THE UNION OF WRITERS OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WOULD
TAKE A LONG TIME, BUT IS "NECESSARY AND USEFUL".

4. THE LOCAL LITERARY ADMINISTRATOR, IN A JULY 27 STATEMENT,
REAFFIRMED THE WRITER'S ROLE AS "DEFENDERS OF THE SOCIALIST WAY
OF LIFE" AND CRITICIZED WESTERN WRITERS' "TENDENCIES TO
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ISOLATE MAN FROM SOCIETY."

5. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST SUGGESTION THIS EMBASSY HAS
HEARD OF A LITERARY HELSINKI. HOWEVER, KALCIK, AN AGING
PARTY FIGURE WITH NO KNOWN ARTISTIC REPUTATION, IS NOT GIVEN
TO MAKING INDEPENDENT STATEMENTS OF HIS OWN, AND WE WILL MAKE
APPROPRIATE INQUIRIES. IF A LITERARY HELSINKI EVER DEVELOPS,
IT MAY REAP THE GOC A WHIRLWIND OF BAD PUBLICITY. SEVERAL PROMI-
NENT AMERICAN WRITERS, INCLUDING PHILIP ROTH AND ARTHUR MILLER,
LARGELY THROUGH P.E.N., THE INTERNATIONAL WRITERS ORGANIZATION,
HAVE SHARPLY CRITICIZED GOC TREATMENT OF SUCH DISSIDENT WRITERS
AS MILAN KUNDERA AND LUDVIK VACULIK, AND A PUBLIC FORUM ON THE
WRITER'S PLACE IN SOCIETY IS SURE TO FULLY REVIVE THIS NEVER
COMPLETELY DORMANT ISSUE.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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